

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**



**Kurt E. Floren**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

**Department of  
Agricultural Commissioner/  
Weights and Measures**

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**Richard K. Iizuka**  
Chief Deputy

DATE: October 23, 2012

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman, Third District  
Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District  
Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Fifth District

FROM: Kurt E. Floren  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

**SUBJECT: ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY ERADICATION IN NORTHRIDGE**

Two mature specimens of Oriental Fruit Fly (OFF), a major agricultural pest, were detected by California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) staff in two different locations in the Northridge-Winnetka area on Friday, October, 19. The near proximity of these specimens, one male and one female, warrants action. Mated female Oriental Fruit Flies deposit eggs into host fruits and vegetables and resulting maggots make the produce unfit for consumption. The species is known to target over 230 different fruit, vegetable and plant commodities. To address this pest, CDFA personnel will conduct an OFF eradication operation over a 12 square-mile area in Northridge, Winnetka, Reseda, and Canoga Park (see attached map).

A "male attractant" technique is being employed to combat this pest. Presenting no inconvenience to community members, the process consists of squirting a small spot of bait onto streetside tree trunks. Approximately 600 such "bait stations" are placed approximately eight to ten feet up on the trees in each square mile of the eradication area. Male flies feed on the bait and are killed by the small amount of Naled pesticide in the bait. No aerial bait treatments are planned. CDFA plans to start treatments Thursday, October 24, and will repeat treatments at two-week intervals for at least six sessions.

We are informing City of Los Angeles authorities and your Board offices in the treatment area to enable staff to answer questions from the public.

I will continue to update you as details become available and warrant an update.

KEF:kp

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer  
Georgia Mattera, Manager, Public Safety Cluster  
Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer  
Board Deputies

ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY  
NORTHRIDGE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
2012

